

Amendment – Clear Text version

**In the Claims:**

Cancel claims 9 & 10.

Replace claim 11 with:

11. (Once amended) An adjustable bridge for an instrument having plural strings, said bridge comprising:

- a) a base plate connectable to the body of the instrument, said base plate comprising a bottom plate adapted to contact the body of the instrument;
- b) plural adjusters, one for each string, each supported by said bottom plate, and each comprising:
- i) an anvil,
  - ii) a saddle, pivotally supported by said anvil and defining a string groove adapted to receive the string; and
  - iii) means for adjusting the relative angle of said anvil and said saddle about said pivot whereby the distance between said string groove and said anvil can be varied;
- c) plural length adjusting screws, one connecting each of said adjusters to a section of said base plate, whereby rotation of said screws relative to said adjusters moves said adjusters toward or away from said base plate section to separately adjust the length of each string;

wherein said bottom plate has a somewhat concave lower surface to adapt said bridge to stringed instruments having convex bodies.

[ Replace claim 12 with: ]

12. (Once amended) An adjustable bridge for an instrument having plural strings, said bridge comprising:

- a) a base plate connectable to the body of the instrument, said base plate comprising a bottom plate adapted to contact the body of the instrument;

- b) plural adjusters, one for each string, each supported by said bottom plate, and each comprising:
  - i) an anvil,
  - ii) a saddle, pivotally supported by said anvil and defining a string groove adapted to receive the string; and
  - iii) means for adjusting the relative angle of said anvil and said saddle about said pivot whereby the distance between said string groove and said anvil can be varied;
- c) plural length adjusting screws, one connecting each of said adjusters to a section of said base plate, whereby rotation of said screws relative to said adjusters moves said adjusters toward or away from said base plate section to separately adjust the length of each string;

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wherein said bottom plate has a somewhat convex upper surface to position said adjusters in an arcuate pattern.

[ Replace claim 13 with: ]

13. (Once amended) An adjustable bridge for an instrument having plural strings, said bridge comprising:

- a) a base plate connectable to the body of the instrument;
- b) plural adjusters, one for each string, each comprising:
  - i) an anvil,
  - ii) a saddle, pivotally supported by said anvil and defining a string groove adapted to receive the string; and
  - iii) means for adjusting the relative angle of said anvil and said saddle about said pivot whereby the distance between said string groove and said anvil can be varied;
- c) plural length adjusting screws, one connecting each of said adjusters to a section of said base plate, whereby rotation of said screws relative to said adjusters moves said adjusters toward or away from said base plate section to separately adjust the length of each string;

wherein said base plate defines an open region in which said adjusters are positioned in direct contact with the instrument body.

61  
[Replace claim 14 with:]

14. (Once amended) An adjustable bridge for an instrument having plural strings, said bridge comprising:

- a) a base plate connectable to the body of the instrument;
- b) plural adjusters, one for each string, each comprising:
  - i) an anvil,
  - ii) a saddle, pivotally supported by said anvil and defining a string groove adapted to receive the string; and
  - iii) means for adjusting the relative angle of said anvil and said saddle about said pivot whereby the distance between said string groove and said anvil can be varied;
- c) plural length adjusting screws, one connecting each of said adjusters to a section of said base plate, whereby rotation of said screws relative to said adjusters moves said adjusters toward or away from said base plate section to separately adjust the length of each string;

wherein each of said adjusters has a width and said base plate comprises two spaced apart parallel side rails defining therebetween a space having a width substantially equal to the combined width of said plural adjusters whereby said adjusters are closely received within said space with lateral movement of said adjusters substantially eliminated.